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Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable TAMMY DUCKWORTH, a Senator from the State of Illinois.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, whom the heavens of heavens cannot contain, illumine us by Your Grace that we may represent You.

May our Senators, today, show You their gratitude through humble service to this land we love. Lord, help them to do Your will by bringing deliverance to captives, guidance for the lost, and relief to the oppressed. Direct their steps, and give them the wisdom to focus on the things that truly matter. When bewildered by vicissitudes, may they look to You as the one constituent they must please.

Touch us all with Your unfailing love, particularly the many staffers and other unsung heroes and heroines who labor long hours in the back-ground for liberty.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 12, 2023.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable TAMMY DUCKWORTH, a Senator from the State of Illinois, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

Ms. DUCKWORTH thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Elizabeth Allen, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

UKRAINE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, public reports indicate that the armed forces of Ukraine have begun their long-planned counteroffensive in earnest. Having blunted Putin's

unprovoked escalation last year, Ukraine is aiming to drive Russian forces back and out of occupied Ukrainian territory on multiple fronts.

Reaching this point in the conflict is, of course, due in large measure to the heroism of the brave Ukrainians defending their homeland, but their success is also—also—a credit to the tangible support of the United States, NATO allies, and friends around the globe who value the same sovereignty and territorial integrity which is under attack in Ukraine.

The acute threat of Russian aggression helped wake many of our European friends from a holiday from history. Putin's escalation drove many of our closest allies to start investing more seriously in their own defense and contribute more readily to collective security. This is, of course, a positive development and a critical one as we look toward deterring aggression from China.

At the same time, America's support for Ukraine has done much more than sustain their defense. As I have said repeatedly, sending lethal Western capabilities to the frontlines has been a direct investment in our own security in a number of concrete ways.

First, equipping our friends on the frontlines to defend themselves is a far, far cheaper way, in both dollars and American lives, to degrade Russia's ability to threaten the United States.

Second, Ukraine's effective defense of its territory is teaching us lessons about how to improve the defenses of partners who are threatened by China. It is no surprise that senior officials from Taiwan are so supportive of efforts to help Ukraine defeat Russia.

Third, most of the money that has been appropriated for Ukraine's security assistance doesn't actually go to Ukraine; it gets invested in American defense manufacturing. It funds new weapons and munitions for U.S. Armed Forces to replace the older materiel we have provided to Ukraine.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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So let me be clear: This assistance means more jobs for American workers and newer weapons for American servicemembers.

I know that media reports about U.S. assistance to Ukraine have been really quite confusing—so has the Biden administration's messaging. Last week, for example, the administration announced what it called a "new" package of security assistance to Ukraine.

In reality, this is the latest tranche of assistance. It is not a new appropriation. It is just the latest in a slow and steady disbursement—perhaps too slow and too steady—of assistance previously approved by an overwhelming bipartisan majority in Congress.

I will have more to say as Ukraine continues to push Vladimir Putin's forces backward, and Senate Republicans will continue our efforts to invest in America's own national security.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Madam President, now on an entirely different matter, last week, Senate Democrats backtracked on plans to confirm Dale Ho to the Southern District of New York. Apparently, our colleagues didn't yet have enough votes for the self-described "wide-eyed leftist" President Biden would like to give a lifetime appointment to the Federal bench.

I have talked about Mr. Ho's criticism of the Fraternal Order of Police and his history of attacking our colleagues on Twitter. I have discussed his apparent dismay that fidelity to the Constitution as it was written doesn't really produce "progressive" outcomes. But as you might expect, the rap sheet on a nominee too radical for Senate Democrats goes on. Mr. Ho has also vocally opposed laws that ban ballot harvesting. He has railed against common-sense voter ID requirements that 80 percent of Americans support.

Senate Democrats will have to think hard about whether they are ready to ram Mr. Ho's nomination through after all of this. But in the meantime, two more of President Biden's leftwing nominees are up for a vote this week; first, Hernan Vera, nominated to the bench in the Central District of California. Mr. Vera's nomination comes with the ringing endorsement of the left's dark money operation, and a review of his record certainly shows why.

Throughout his legal career, Mr. Vera has made no effort to hide his willingness to pick progressive activism over the rule of law. He has asserted publicly that the need for greater security at our southern border is actually a "myth" and supported efforts to prevent ICE from conducting enforcement operations in county jails. In other words, Mr. Vera doesn't just oppose enforcing immigration laws; he opposes enforcing laws illegal immigrants have broken after they have arrived.

The Senate will also vote this week on the nomination of Patrick Pitts to the Northern District of California. Mr.

Pitts helped to organize student protests against military recruiters on campus when he was at Yale, but he publicly fawned over a leftist judge who later faced a reckoning over his decades of sexual harassment. Apparently, the Army was unseemly, but a notorious harasser was "an inspiration."

Aside from being a bad judge of character, Mr. Pitts has spent his legal career making life easier for Democrats' Big Labor allies. He worked to give union bosses more political influence over American workers, especially those who would rather be free from union thuggery.

I will be opposing each of these nominations and will urge our colleagues to do the same.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UKRAINE

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, last week, Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, GEN Mark Milley, spoke at the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial in France. In the audience were veterans—some were over 100 years old—who stormed those beaches 79 years ago on D-Day. D-Day was a critical moment in World War II. It was the beginning of the liberation of Europe, and it was the beginning of the end of Nazi tyranny.

Looking out over a sea of headstones of fallen American patriots, Secretary Austin said:

It's easy to forget how desperate the battle was . . . but, on D-Day, courage won out over terror, daring over cruelty, and liberty won out over tyranny.

Today, that same eternal battle is being fought in another place, in Ukraine, which has begun a heroic counteroffensive to finally drive out Vladimir Putin and the Russian invaders and to preserve democracy in that nation.

Next month, Senator SHAHEEN of New Hampshire and I will travel to the NATO summit in Lithuania. The location—in a nation that was once under Soviet occupation—is both historic and poignant. Success in Ukraine's counteroffensive and the country's long-term security will once again be on top of the NATO agenda. We also will welcome the security alliance's newest member, Finland. I hope, by the time we convene in Lithuania, Hungary and Turkey will have ratified Sweden's succession without any further delay—another plus for the future of the NATO alliance.

Let me also state clearly that I believe Ukraine's future is in the European Union and the NATO alliance, and

until the day that Ukraine can join NATO, the United States and other key allies must help Ukraine with security guarantees, as we do with other key non-NATO allies. It is clear that Ukraine can never trust Russia. It is in the interest of the United States and democracy itself that we ensure Ukraine can always defend itself, that any aggressor will think twice before ever again trying to threaten its people or its territory.

President Biden knows what is at stake in this fight against tyranny. So do our NATO allies. And I want to particularly note Minority Leader MCCONNELL. Echoing Ronald Reagan, Senator MCCONNELL has spoken forcefully about the need for continued bipartisan support for Ukraine. That is the ultimate strength of the American role in the NATO alliance: that we speak with one voice. And, of course, Ukrainian President Zelenskyy understands that what is at stake in Ukraine is bigger than just his nation; it is literally a battle for freedom and democracy themselves.

In his remarks at Normandy last week, Secretary Austin said:

Free soldiers will fight more bravely than the armies of tyrants.

He is correct, but the free people of Ukraine must not be left to fight this war alone. The United States and nations of the free world must provide the resources and equipment and training necessary for them to prevail against Putin and his cowardly enablers. The free people and soldiers of Ukraine are fighting today to preserve the peace and international order for which those young Americans gave their lives at D-Day. We must stand with them with resolve until Ukraine is free again.

INVESTING IN AMERICA

Madam President, on an issue that you know so well, let me say this: Last week, the White House launched a new website, invest.gov. It shows the historic investments that have been announced across America since President Biden took office.

We should not forget that under the previous President, there were 4 years of promises and 4 years where they failed to produce. Under President Biden, we have a bipartisan infrastructure bill that is changing the face of America and preparing our economy for the 21st century.

Invest.gov shows the historic investments that have been announced across America under President Biden and provides a State-by-State overview of those investments.

In a little more than 2 years, Illinois, our State, has received more than \$9 billion in infrastructure funding, more than \$1 billion to support the creation of clean energy jobs, and we are creating thousands of new manufacturing jobs at this very moment.

Today, I want to tell you about one particular project near and dear to us in Illinois. It is a project our leaders have been talking about for literally

six decades—since the time of the John F. Kennedy administration—and one that I hope we will be able to add to this Senate's long list of accomplishments. It is called the Southwest Connector, and it will be vital to my State's economy as well as that of the neighboring State of Missouri.

I have requested congressional-directed spending to support this project in the next fiscal year. It will expand Illinois State highways 127, 154, and 3 from two to four lanes and create a much-desired rural expressway between St. Louis and Southern Illinois.

Madam President, I can remember when I was new to this business, and in the first campaign, working for a man named Paul Douglas, who was our Senator at the time, I went to Southern Illinois with him in the 1960s, fresh out of college, and heard him tell the story about the valiant efforts that they made to build up Southern Illinois and to restore a broken economy. Part of that was involved in creating lakes and water supplies which still serve the region and are effective in our future view of where we must go as a nation and as a State.

Now we need to do the same thing in transportation. Expanding these two-lane highways to four lanes will boost economic development in Southern Illinois and Missouri by creating jobs and enabling the regions to better compete.

Several sections of the Connector's planned route rank in the top 5 percent of the most dangerous two-lane highways in our State of Illinois. The Connector would improve traffic safety by separating lanes of traffic with a 50-foot median, and it would improve mobility for emergency vehicles and provide faster access to healthcare facilities. The project would also benefit the National Guard armories in Sparta and Murphysboro, whose activation has been particularly crucial during the floods in the region.

When Congress passed the bipartisan infrastructure law in 2021—the largest investment in our infrastructure since President Eisenhower created the Interstate Highway System—it was proof that we could get big things done on behalf of the American people. We have a chance to do it again by moving forward on the Southwest Connector.

I want to particularly thank the mayor of Murphysboro, Will Stephens, who visited both of our offices. He has been working hard to make the Connector a reality, despite the fact that the concept of the Connector really started years before he was born.

There are countless local leaders across America like Mayor Stephens who are committed to improving our communities but who have been forced to wait on Washington to provide the funding. Let's not make them wait any longer. Congress needs to return to regular order in a timely manner to carry out the annual appropriations process and fulfill the authorizations in the bipartisan infrastructure law and to con-

sider earmarks for community projects that have the opportunity to transform rural communities across America.

As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I am committed to working with my colleagues under the bipartisan leadership of Chair MURRAY and Ranking Member COLLINS to pass our 12 annual appropriations bills on time.

Madam President, I know this is near and dear to you as well as myself. To see this project move forward is going to change the face of Southern Illinois at a time when they need this infusion of economic activity and opportunity. I hope this project can be included in our projects that are authorized and appropriated in this year's bill. I will be working toward that goal.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

TRUMP INVESTIGATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, last Friday, the Department of Justice announced Donald Trump had been indicted on 37 counts related to his mishandling of classified documents. One only has to listen to the statements from former Trump National Security Advisor John Bolton and Trump's former Attorney General to know just how serious this indictment is.

As I have said before: No one is above the law—including Donald Trump. This case must be allowed to play out through the legal process without outside political or ideological interference. I encourage both supporters and critics of Donald Trump to maintain the peace and let the justice system do its work.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Madam President, now, on Senate business, it will be another busy week here in the Senate as we confirm more nominees and address pressing issues like AI. Tomorrow, the Senate will convene the first of three Senators-only briefings on artificial intelligence.

These briefings are the first all-Senators briefings ever on AI. Tomorrow's briefing, provided by Antonio Torralba of MIT, will focus on the state of AI today, providing an overview of AI, where it is being used right now, what it is currently capable of, and other recent developments.

Professor Torralba is one of the top machine-learning experts in the country, someone exceptionally skilled at breaking down all the complexities of AI in an accessible and simple way.

I strongly urge all my colleagues on both sides to attend tomorrow's briefing because elected representatives in the 21st century cannot ignore AI any more than we can ignore our national security, job creation, or civil liberties. It is imperative that we Senators take time to educate ourselves on AI and its implications so that we can ensure it becomes a force for human prosperity while mitigating its very real risks.

I also urge my colleagues to attend the other two AI briefings happening in the coming weeks. Our second briefing will focus on where AI is headed in the future and how America can remain a leader in the field.

Our third classified briefing on AI, the first ever classified Senate briefing on the subject, will focus on how our adversaries will use AI against us, as well as how the DOD and the intelligence community are using this technology to keep Americans safe.

I look forward to attending the briefing tomorrow, and I thank Senators ROUNDS, HEINRICH, and YOUNG for their work on this issue.

On the nominations front, last week, after confirming several highly qualified nominees like Dilawar Syed to the SBA, I filed cloture on two more executive nominees and two district judges.

On the judicial front, we will soon consider the nominations of Hernan Vera to serve as a district judge for the Central District of California and Casey Pitts to serve as a district judge for the Northern District of California. And for the information of Senators, I will be filing cloture on more nominees later this evening.

REPUBLICAN TAX PLAN

Now, on the Republican tax plan, with the predictability of a meteorome, Republicans are back doing what they do best: pushing tax giveaways that benefit the wealthy, large, huge corporations, while telling working families to take a hike. Last Friday, the House Republicans released a sweeping array of new tax giveaways that double down on some of the worst parts of the 2017 Trump tax law.

This latest GOP tax scam feels like a bad rerun. Once again, the biggest winners are billion-dollar companies, Big Oil polluters, and very high-income households. Once again, the biggest losers in this Republican tax scheme are vulnerable families and anyone who worries about protecting our planet for future generations.

The bulk of these new business tax giveaways will flow directly to the largest corporations in the country. Half of the 10 billion in interest deduction benefits, for example, will flow to companies with revenues of over a billion dollars annually.

Republicans' latest proposal will also gut billions in clean energy investments, essential for lowering our carbon emissions and creating millions of good-paying green jobs. In just 10 months, the Inflation Reduction Act has created over 142,000 new good-paying jobs, and more are coming in the next few months and years.

But Republicans want to gut those investments. Big Oil polluters, meanwhile, under the Republican plan, would get a \$10 billion tax break. It is almost too perfect that Republicans unrolled this Big Oil tax giveaway right as millions of Americans endured the hazards of toxic air pollution exacerbated by climate change.

And, of course, this tax giveaway by the Republicans will mean next to

nothing for too many Americans who aren't among the top percentage of earners.

And for all the consternation we have heard from Republicans about lowering the deficit, this latest tax package will do what Republican tax packages have regularly done in the past: blow another hole in our deficit.

Independent forecasters say Republicans' proposals would increase the deficit by a trillion dollars. These are the same Republicans who nearly defaulted us because they were worried about the deficit and about debt, and now they are making a proposal that increases debt by a trillion dollars. What hypocrisy.

Republicans love to sing from the hymnal of fiscal responsibility and deficit reduction when it suits them. But whenever they push tax breaks for the ultrarich and the big corporations that increase the deficit, suddenly they switch their tune. Republicans claim that these tax cuts pay for themselves, as if by magic, but the GOP has been claiming for decades that their tax cuts pay for themselves only to have the actual economic facts repudiate them over and over and over again. Americans know by now that cutting taxes for the rich while ignoring working families is a failed approach—the trickle-down approach that Republicans seem to love. But Republicans seem remarkably impervious to learning from experience. After all, the last time the Republican tax scam was passed under President Trump, we know what happened: The winners turned out to be wealthy shareholders and corporations, not families. And then big corporations used their windfall from the GOP tax scam to spend trillions of dollars on corporate stock buybacks.

The latest Republican tax scam is more of the same: giveaways to large corporations, giveaways to Big Oil, and another massive hole in the deficit. The good news is, the American people saw through the GOP tax plan when Republicans passed it in 2017. When they were running in 2018, they hardly mentioned it because Americans were aware it was not for them but for the wealthiest people. The American people, once again, see through this tax scam just as clearly today.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 26.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Dale E. Ho, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 26, Dale E. Ho, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Edward J. Markey, Tammy Duckworth, Ben Ray Lujan, Margaret Wood Hassan, Christopher Murphy, Debbie Stabenow, Sheldon Whitehouse, Tina Smith, Tammy Baldwin, Angus S. King, Jr., Martin Heinrich, Raphael G. Warnock, Brian Schatz, Peter Welch, Jack Reed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to legislative session.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 29.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Nusrat Jahan Choudhury, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the

Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 29, Nusrat Jahan Choudhury, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Tim Kaine, Margaret Wood Hassan, Ben Ray Lujan, Raphael G. Warnock, Tammy Duckworth, Jack Reed, John W. Hickenlooper, Catherine Cortez Masto, Tammy Baldwin, Brian Schatz, Christopher Murphy, Tina Smith, Debbie Stabenow, Sheldon Whitehouse.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to legislative session.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 23.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Julie Rikelman, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 23, Julie Rikelman, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tina Smith, Christopher Murphy, Mazie Hirono, Tammy Baldwin, Margaret Wood Hassan, John W. Hickenlooper, Sheldon Whitehouse, Catherine Cortez Masto, Brian Schatz, Gary C. Peters, Alex Padilla, Michael F. Bennet.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, June 12, be waived.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Texas.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, last month, the majority leader announced an effort to compile what he called China bill 2.0, alluding to the CHIPS and Science Act that we passed last year dealing with the vulnerability of our supply chains and access to advanced semiconductors, which were overwhelmingly manufactured in Asia—60 percent in Taiwan alone.

To pursue this China bill 2.0, Senator SCHUMER directed committee chairmen to work on legislation that takes aim at everything from U.S. investment in China to security threats against Taiwan. As each of us knows, these are some of the most urgent threats facing the United States and our allies to date.

The Chinese Communist Party has become increasingly aggressive in recent years. It is rapidly growing and modernizing its military. It is cozying up to Russia. It is bullying and harassing its neighbors in the Indo-Pacific.

Yes, there is a clear and urgent need to counter threats from China, but there is a better way than China 2.0.

As we have seen in the past, our Democratic colleagues can't resist the urge to mix partisan politics along with urgent national security legislation. So every one of these bills tends to become a vehicle for unrelated items. We saw this during consideration of the U.S. Innovation and Competition Act 2 years ago, when our colleagues attached prevailing wage legislation to the CHIPS provisions. They injected partisan labor policy into private construction projects that would benefit from national security concerns.

But we won't outcompete China by pursuing a liberal domestic socialist policy. Our Democratic colleagues have shown themselves unwilling to separate themselves from the left's wish list from our most urgent national security priorities.

If the true goal is to counter threats from China, the majority leader doesn't need a new working group to draft a bill from scratch because there is already a strong bipartisan effort underway. Our colleagues on the Armed Services Committee are working around-the-clock to prepare this year's Defense authorization bill. This has literally been something that Congress has done for the last 61 years without interruption.

This legislation is not negotiated in a backroom by a hand-picked group of Members. It isn't thrown together in a matter of days and then pushed to the floor for a vote without the opportunity to offer amendments. It is slowly and thoughtfully drafted over a period of months, including multiple hearings, votes, and hundreds of amendments.

Year after year, all 100 Members of the U.S. Senate are given an opportunity to shape the national defense authorization bill in some way. As a re-

sult, the Defense authorization bill has maintained strong bipartisan support for more than six decades.

The Armed Services Committee is set to consider the 2024 National Defense Authorization Act just next week. As it stands right now, the committee should be able to complete its work by the end of the month and put the Senate in a great position to pass a strong and ontime defense bill.

This legislation is all about supporting our servicemembers, modernizing our military, and addressing the biggest security threats, including those posed by the Chinese Communist Party.

The bipartisan national defense authorization bill should be the centerpiece of our efforts to counter threats from Russia, not a bill put together behind closed doors with Members having only the chance to vote yes or no in final passage. Senators on both sides will have an opportunity, in contrast, under the NDAA, to offer amendments and to be able to shape that bill, so it will truly represent a bipartisan consensus of all 100 Members of the U.S. Senate.

I plan to offer several amendments that will strengthen our ability to counter threats from China. One of those bills that I intend to offer takes aim at China and other adversaries that are trying to take advantage of loopholes to influence U.S. policy.

What I am talking about is the Foreign Agent Registration Act. That law requires individuals engaged in lobbying activities on behalf of foreign governments to disclose that information publicly. But there are two major loopholes that are being abused by our adversaries. As a result, foreign agents are able to influence U.S. policy unbeknownst to Members of Congress because they don't have to disclose who is actually paying them. So rather than being engaged in the people's business—the people of the United States—we could find ourselves being lobbied by somebody who is representing a foreign government with interests that are completely different from those of the United States.

Lobbyists for American entities are required to adhere to strict disclosure requirements. We want to know whom they are working for. There is no reason our adversaries should be subject to a more lenient standard, which they are now. In other words, it is easy to hide the ball—come in and lobby on behalf of a foreign government and not let Members of Congress or the American people know whom they are lobbying on behalf of.

Senator WHITEHOUSE and I have introduced a bill we call the PAID OFF Act to help close those loopholes in our lobbying system that are being abused by some of our adversaries that would require foreign agents lobbying on behalf of China, Russia, Cuba, or other countries of concern to register and disclose their political activities to the Department of Justice, just as the law

originally intended before these loopholes were identified and exploited.

As our colleagues know, there has never been a more important time to protect our country from the secret and malign influence of some foreign governments. This is a goal Democrats and Republicans should share alike, and I hope this legislation will be adopted as an amendment to this year's National Defense Authorization Act.

Another amendment I plan to offer is the National Critical Capabilities Defense Act, which has been a joint effort with Senator CASEY, the Senator from Pennsylvania. We first introduced this legislation last year to help understand our greatest national security risks.

We know that American companies have been investing in China for many years, including some defense and technology capabilities, now at an alarming scale. At the end of 2020, U.S. investments in Chinese companies totaled \$2.3 trillion in market value; that is, U.S. companies investing in China have basically built the Chinese economy which now puts them as a peer adversary both in terms of our economies and in terms of our military capabilities. So that \$2.3 trillion in market value by American companies that invest in China includes \$21 billion in semiconductors, \$54 billion for Chinese military companies, and a whopping \$221 billion in artificial intelligence.

American companies are bankrolling the capabilities and assets that the Chinese Communist Party could soon use against the United States and our allies.

Right now, the United States is flying blind. We don't have a full understanding of the vulnerabilities this creates, and this legislation is exactly what we hope will begin to change that situation and provide more transparency and, thus, ability for U.S. Members of Congress and others leaders to evaluate whether and how some of these investments made by U.S. companies in China are affecting our national security.

The National Critical Capabilities Defense Act would ensure that we have better awareness of the biggest national security risks so we can plan and prepare accordingly.

Just as it is critical for the United States to have visibility of potential risks, it is also important for the average American to understand how Chinese aggression could impact their own finances and our economy.

President Xi Jinping has made no secret of his desire to invade Taiwan, and he has even said he wants to be ready to go by the year 2027—just 4 years from now. If or when that happens, the global response will be swift and severe. It will affect businesses' cashflow, manufacturing operations, employees, assets, business relationships, and so much more.

So stockholders, to whom the companies owe a fiduciary duty—investors need to know, whether it is a teachers'

retirement fund or a union pension retirement fund, how much risk these investments in Chinese companies carry.

I think of this like the warning on a box of cigarettes that says: Smoking causes lung cancer, heart disease, emphysema, and may complicate pregnancy. Now, consenting adults have the freedom to read this warning and ignore it, but they are at least presented with clear information about the risks associated with their decision. American shareholders and investors—teachers' and firefighters' pension funds, union pension funds—deserve the same transparency when it comes to the dangers of military conflict in the Indo-Pacific.

I am finalizing legislation that will require public companies, investment companies, investment advisers, and tax-exempt organizations to disclose the risk posed by a potential military conflict in the Indo-Pacific. A Chinese invasion of Taiwan poses a material risk to many Americans' livelihoods and retirements and investments, and that information should be disclosed and transparent.

So these are just a few of the bipartisan bills that are aimed at countering China that I hope will be included in the National Defense Authorization bill.

Once again, I appreciate Senator WICKER and Senator REED for their work to make the national defense reauthorization a thoughtful, fair, and open process.

This is what we call regular order around here as contrasted with the backroom negotiations which only a handful of people get to participate in and basically where rank-and-file Members are excluded.

This also would reaffirm that the National Defense Authorization Act should be the pillar of our efforts to counter China. I fear that a China 2.0 bill will turn into just another vehicle for partisan freight. It will lead good, bipartisan bills to be held hostage by unrelated partisan demands. We cannot allow competition with China to become so politicized. The answer, of course, is the National Defense Authorization Act, which has a long and proud history of bipartisanship, and I hope we can continue to build on that success this year.

Once the Armed Services Committee completes its work, I hope the majority leader will prioritize the consideration of that bill on the Senate floor. We can't afford to repeat last year's drama, when Senator SCHUMER allowed the NDAA to languish on the Senate's calendar for more than 5 months without any action. If the majority leader truly cares about countering threats from China, he will abandon his partisan China 2.0 bill and allow the Senate to pass a strong and on-time National Defense Authorization Act.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Iowa.

CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, last week, I came here to speak to my colleagues about the Biden administration and the FBI playing games with the American people by hiding the FBI-generated 1023 document from Congress and the American people. Director Wray was going to be held in contempt for refusing to produce the 1023 that I told Chairman COMER about, and I think I had that first conversation with Chairman COMER about 3 weeks ago. Then, instead of contempt, the FBI committed to showing the 1023 and related documents to the whole Congress.

By the way, I thank Chairman COMER for his cooperation with me and for how he has pursued this issue, because we know a heck of a lot more now than if he had not been involved in this whole effort.

So the FBI showed—after the FBI committed to showing this document—but didn't provide possession of that 1023 to the House Oversight Committee last week.

By the way, 1023 is unclassified, so why shouldn't the entire country know about what is in this 1023? As the public knows, that 1023 involves an alleged bribery scheme between then-Vice President Biden, Hunter Biden, and a foreign national—the same allegations Chairman COMER and I made public on May 3 of this year.

On the very same day that the FBI provided a redacted version of the 1023 to the House Oversight Committee, the Justice Department then announced that former President Trump had been indicted and charged with 37 crimes relating to his alleged mishandling of classified records.

Attorney General Garland signed off on prosecuting Trump for conduct similar to what Joe Biden and Hillary Clinton engaged in. Two standards of justice in this country will turn our constitutional Republic upside down. Thanks to the political infection within the Biden Justice Department and the FBI, we are well along the road for that to happen.

This Senator will do all that he can to fight that political infection in the Department of Justice and the FBI. You fight it, then, by bringing transparency to what this government does. The public's business ought to be public. Transparency brings accountability.

With respect to the 1023 shown to the House Oversight Committee, from what I have been told by folks who have reviewed it, it is filled with redactions. The document that COMER and I read had maybe two or three half-inch redactions, not whole sentences redacted, as I am told the document in the SCIF has. So Director Wray placed redactions on a document that is already unclassified—as I have said before, unclassified. More than that, the FBI made Congress review a redacted, unclassified document in a classified facility. That goes to show you the disrespect the FBI has for Congress.

During a previous time on the Senate floor, I think I told my fellow Senators what was so unusual about an unclassified document being given to the public when—I think it was on May 18 of this year—there was leaked to the New York Times a classified document and even the name of a confidential human source. So we are kind of in a strange situation here when a classified document can be leaked to the New York Times, but an unclassified document cannot be made public to 300 million Americans if they are interested in reading it.

Accordingly, Congress still lacks a full and complete picture with respect to what that document really says. That is why it is important that the document be made public, without unnecessary redactions, for the American people to see. Can you believe redacting an unclassified document?

Now let me assist for the purposes of there being more transparency on this subject.

The 1023 produced to that House committee redacted the reference that the foreign national who allegedly bribed Joe and Hunter Biden allegedly has audio recordings of his conversation with them—17 such recordings. According to the 1023, the foreign national possesses 15 audio recordings of phone calls between him and Hunter Biden. According to the 1023, the foreign national possesses two audio recordings of phone calls between him and then-Vice President Joe Biden. These recordings were allegedly kept as a sort of insurance policy for the foreign national in case he got into a tight spot. The 1023 also indicates that then-Vice President Joe Biden may have been involved in Burisma's employing Hunter Biden.

So, as I have repeatedly asked since going public with the existence of the 1023, what, if anything, has the Justice Department and FBI done to investigate? The Justice Department and FBI must show their work. They no longer deserve the benefit of the doubt.

It is clear that the Justice Department and FBI will use every resource to investigate Candidate Trump, President Trump, and former President Trump. Based on the facts known to the Congress and the public, it is clear that the Justice Department and the FBI haven't nearly had the same laser focus on the Biden family. Special Counsel Jack Smith has used a recording against former President Trump. Well, what is U.S. Attorney Weiss doing with respect to these alleged Joe and Hunter Biden recordings that are apparently relevant to a high-stakes bribery scheme?

Getting a full and complete 1023 is critical for the American people to know and understand the true nature of the document and to hold the Justice Department and the FBI accountable. It is also important for asserting constitutional congressional oversight powers against an out-of-control executive branch that is obviously drunk with political infection.

Remember, Congress has received 1023s in the past, and they have been made public. So asking for this 1023 to be turned over to the American people to read is not an unusual thing that goes on with 1023s.

Congress owes it to the American people and the brave and heroic whistleblowers to continue to fight for transparency on this matter and make this document public without unnecessary redactions.

I want everybody to remember that I have read the unredacted version except for a couple or three half-inch redactions, I would say.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BORDER SECURITY

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, the Biden administration has spent the better part of 3 years claiming that its border policies are humane and just. We know this isn't the case. Under Joe Biden, the Mexican cartels are acting with impunity because the President would rather cave to the desires of the far left than admit that a country with open borders has no borders at all. Because of this open border policy and the fact that they are not recognizing the southern border as a border, they have turned every town into a border town, every State into a border State, and this has made us vulnerable to drug smugglers, human traffickers, and violent criminals looking for their next victim.

In April, the Border Patrol reported more than 182,000 encounters with migrants trying to cross the southern border—182,000. When you combine that with the numbers from the first quarter of this year, you come up with more than 602,000 encounters. That doesn't include the tens of thousands of got-aways who disappeared into the country before they could be apprehended. When you add that to the 22,000 pounds of drugs that have been seized, almost 40,000 criminals that have been caught, and 49 suspected terrorists apprehended, you must conclude that the Biden administration hasn't just lost control of the border; they have relinquished it.

As I said, the border policy is to have no policy, to have an open border—interesting—and it is something that my colleagues across the aisle refuse to admit is taking place.

Our southern border is wide open. The people benefiting are the cartels that are in control of the border on the Mexico side: 49 suspected terrorists, 22,000 pounds of drugs, 40,000 criminal illegal aliens apprehended. As I said, that is just in the 602,000 who have been

apprehended so far this year. That is right, so far this year.

And in the got-aways—the tens of thousands of got-aways—how many more pounds of drugs, how many more criminals, how many more terrorists have come into this country?

While our border is open, the cartels are monetizing Joe Biden's refusal to secure the country. They have turned human trafficking into a \$13 billion-a-year business. It is amazing—\$13 billion on human trafficking alone.

For years, illegal immigrants have taken advantage of the fact that if they cross the border with a minor, they will more likely than not be released into the United States while their immigration cases are processed. But under Joe Biden, human traffickers have made this complacency a part of their expected business model.

They are now engaging in a practice that is horrendous. It is called child recycling. It is a disgusting process. In this child recycling process, the same child is exploited repeatedly by illegal aliens attempting to enter the United States. Once one criminal escapes into the country, they ship the child back across the border and into the hands of another abuser.

The Trump administration fought back against this practice and mandated that asylum seekers with accompanying minors take DNA tests to prove that they were indeed a family unit. And like many of the Trump-era border policies, this worked. We have the data to prove it. Just ask the Border Patrol.

In one pilot program, 30 percent of those rapid DNA tests showed that the adult trying to enter the country bore no relation to the child they brought with them—30 percent. The DNA testing program saved a lot of lives.

So I would ask my colleagues this question: Is it fair—is it fair—to ask the Biden administration, is it worth saving the lives of these children?

This Biden administration ended DNA testing of illegal immigrants last month, 2 weeks after title 42 ended. So is it fair to ask why they will not implement DNA testing? Why will they not agree to save the lives of as many as 30 percent of the children who are being presented at the southern border?

See, it wasn't a policy decision. You have just got to believe that. It had to be a political decision, and we just cannot allow this to stand.

Earlier this year, I introduced the End Child Trafficking Now Act. That would criminalize child recycling. It would reinstate the DNA testing program and create harsh penalties for migrants who try to skirt the law. This legislation would require adult migrants trying to enter the country with a minor to prove that they are indeed the child's relative or guardian. They will be able to do that by providing paperwork and sworn witness testimony or by taking the DNA test.

If their paperwork doesn't check out—and we know the cartels have

started to forge documents into fraudulent paperwork. We are aware of that. That is why, if their paperwork doesn't pan out, the DNA test is mandatory. If the DNA test proves that migrant is lying, HHS would step in and process the child as an unaccompanied minor, and the trafficker would face a maximum 10-year prison sentence for falsely posing as a family. This legislation would also require DHS to deport illegal aliens who refuse to take the DNA test. This is a commonsense bill that every Senator in this Chamber should get behind.

I call on my Democratic colleagues to either join me in moving this important legislation forward or explain to the American people why they would stonewall a program, a test—and it only takes 45 minutes. Why would they stonewall this when it would keep children out of these human trafficking rings?

This horrific practice will not stop unless we stop it. And if we don't catch it at the border, we need to catch it as these criminals move across the country.

Child recycling is a problem, but I think we all know that not every child forced across our border is sent back home. Labor and sex trafficking within the United States is real, and it is happening in our communities.

This horrible reality particularly affects girls and young women, which is why I introduced the SAVE Girls Act. This bipartisan legislation, which I introduced with Senator KLOBUCHAR, creates a \$50 million grant program to provide States, localities, and non-government organizations, our non-profits, with the resources they need to catch traffickers and to support the children and the women who survive this horrific practice.

This is not a Republican or a Democrat issue. This is a human rights issue. And I am so grateful to my colleagues for working with me to put the safety of these women and girls first.

I hope the rest of the Members of this Chamber will follow the lead and help us pass the SAVE Girls Act and the End Child Trafficking Now Act because, if we don't, things will get much, much worse for these children and these women who are being trafficked.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HIRONO). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Mr. CASSIDY. Madam President, Social Security is a sacred trust between the American people and the American government. For the worker who is

about to retire with no savings other than Social Security, the woman who relies on Social Security to pay for medications, they need to know that the government is not going to break this sacred trust.

That is why I have been leading a bipartisan group of over a dozen Senators to develop a solution. And we have what we call the Big Idea. But before describing the Big Idea, I have to tell you, right now, it does not matter what big ideas—or any idea—are being discussed. President Biden made it clear in his State of the Union speech that he was going to run for reelection attacking Republicans on the issue of Social Security.

Now, by the way, he has not introduced legislation on Social Security himself. He spoke about one in his previous campaign, but it was not serious. And the money he said he would use for his unserious plan he has already spent on other priorities, or at least proposed to spend. President Biden was not even willing to acknowledge the problem that Social Security faces.

But, in a bipartisan sense, let's be fair; he is not alone. Former President Trump refuses to acknowledge the issue. He never introduced or sought to work with Congress when he was President, and now he criticizes anyone who suggests that Social Security might be going insolvent. But, unfortunately for us all, Social Security is going insolvent.

It is not me who says this; it is the actuaries, those who are told to come before the American people and tell what is the current state of Social Security. They tell us that in 9 years, it is insolvent. At that point, beneficiaries will see a 24-percent cut in the amount they are receiving. There is no grandfathering in. You might be already receiving, but when that deadline hits—2033, 2032—boom, 24-percent cut for those who are currently receiving. Poverty among the elderly doubles.

And even though it is against the law to borrow money to pay the difference between what is coming in and what is going out, let's imagine that we did. If we do decide to break the law and borrow that money, it would end up causing a \$562 trillion debt to pay these benefits over the next 75 years. That would give us a debt-to-GDP ratio similar to that of Greece and Venezuela, and that is independent of the money that would be required for Medicare benefits and other such benefits.

So what does our Big Idea do? Our Big Idea avoids this problem by setting up an investment fund separate from Social Security—no Social Security money whatsoever—an investment fund in which we place money and allow it to grow over 75 years; and, in so doing, we address 75 percent of the issue.

We don't raise the retirement age to 70, as people suggest. We don't touch the way Social Security benefits are distributed. We make sure that no one

has a disruption in their benefits that they are promised to receive. And in our plan, we have work incentives and we work to address issues of WEP and GPO and poverty among the elderly.

It is an idea that could work and pass Congress, but there has been zero Presidential leadership. And we have had no engagement from this President, and there was no engagement from the previous President.

So a few weeks ago, we decided to take our issue to the people, and we called it Bill on the Hill. Kind of a nice rhyme, huh? I took a walk around the Capitol grounds and spoke to Americans from across the country who were visiting the Nation's capital. There was a couple from Louisiana, a family from Pennsylvania, a veteran who is also a pastor from Massachusetts, and several others who gave their unvarnished opinions on what they want Washington to do about Social Security.

The bottom line: Americans want to see Social Security saved. They—we—deserve a real solution, not grandstanding. One blue-collar worker I spoke to from rural Pennsylvania told me—I am going to try and imitate his voice:

Jobs that I have had haven't necessarily had retirement plans.

He said it was "very discouraging" to hear a 24-percent cut was coming if we do nothing.

There was a doctor from Opelousas. Now, this doctor has as much gray hair as I do, but, if you can imagine, he was once one of my former students. The doctor from Opelousas—Opelousas, LA, for those who don't know about that—he put it in stark terms when I told him that doing nothing means that poverty among his patients would double—among the elderly in general, but he has got a patient population a little bit older. He said the people he knows "would have to start choosing between their medicines and food."

Now, these are people who rely on Social Security, who put faith in that sacred trust that they would not have to choose between medicine and food. Yet that is the choice they are going to be forced to if we do nothing.

And then there was Dr. Paul Kim—a pastor, a veteran—who was up here for a convention from Massachusetts. And he told me what he wanted from a President:

He has to be honest and keep the promise [of Social Security].

Dr. Kim is right. The President needs to be honest with the American people about Social Security; but this President is not. He refuses to even acknowledge that the problem exists.

The fact is, as I have already mentioned, Social Security—according to the actuaries, the people we entrust to tell us the state of it—is going insolvent in 9 years. But President Biden is steadfast in his position that there is nothing wrong, there is no need for a serious plan. Oh, yes, he introduced a plan when he was on the campaign trail; has done nothing since. And the

money that he would use to pay for this unserious plan he has already proposed to spend on other things.

By the way, \$4.5 trillion he has proposed in new taxes and not a dime going to Social Security. And as I mentioned, it isn't just President Biden; it is former President Trump, who did nothing while he was President and, even now, criticizes people who wish to do something. It appears that the Biden-Trump plan is the same plan. It is a plan to do nothing and demagogue those who choose to responsibly address the issue.

When I told one of these folks, the woman from Opelousas, LA, that President Biden and Donald Trump have the same plan, she was going: Whoa, whoa, that is something. But when she heard it was a plan to do nothing, her reaction was:

I want to laugh, and I want to cry at the same time.

Americans are watching as Washington flounders, as the deadline until retirees get a 24 percent cut approaches. By the way, we have seen polling on this. When people understand that the program is going insolvent in 9 years, 75 percent—from the very liberal to the very conservative and every point in between—think that we should address the issue now. That is the American people speaking, but that is not our leading Presidential candidates.

We owe it to the American people to take this sacred trust seriously. We owe it to them to save Social Security before it is too late.

Now, I am open to discussing my big idea, anyone else's idea. You name it. But there has to be a serious conversation. And since it has to be signed into law, a participant must be the President of the United States. We need the political courage from those who aspire to be our Nation's leader to actually show leadership.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that I be able to make my full statement prior to the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF ELIZABETH ALLEN

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I come to the floor today to urge my colleagues to vote for cloture for Elizabeth Allen, the President's nominee for Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs.

When we think about Russia's illegal, unprovoked invasion of Ukraine or China's coercive economic practices, we have to realize we are in competition with more than just conventional militaries or economic prowess. We are in a battle over what kind of world we want to live in. And we want to live in a world where people are free to speak their minds, free to start a business, free to worship as they choose and marry the person they love. These are

the fundamental freedoms that shape the United States and the values that drive our foreign policy.

When it comes to explaining American values and our foreign policy to the world, one of the best tools we have is our public diplomacy programs.

At a time when our adversaries are pouring billions of dollars into propaganda, targeted disinformation and misinformation campaigns—often about the United States—we need an empowered Bureau of Global Public Affairs to tell the truth about U.S. foreign policy. We need to highlight the millions of dollars Americans invest in public health, infrastructure projects, and humanitarian relief around the world.

We need programs like the International Leadership Visitor Program that exposes rising leaders from across the world to America's systems of governance and democracy, leaders who share our vision of a free and open world.

We need programs that bring foreign students to American universities, not only affirming the excellence of our higher education system but bringing billions of dollars into the U.S. economy.

I could go on.

Our public diplomacy tools are simply the best bang for our buck when it comes to making sure we expose people around the world to American values, culture, and the truth about our foreign policy efforts.

We need capable, qualified leadership at the Department of State to lead these efforts. That is why we must confirm Ms. Allen as Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy without delay. As the current senior official for public diplomacy and public affairs at the Department of State, she has already advanced numerous objectives.

As a highly quality professional with a distinguished career and extensive experience in both public and private sectors, Ms. Allen is a nominee who will hit the ground running.

She began her career at the Department of State at the Office of Global Issues and the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement. She served with distinction in the Obama-Biden administration for 8 years, including as White House Deputy Communications Director and Deputy Assistant to the President.

As she talked about during her confirmation hearing, she comes from a family who knows what it means to serve the American people—the granddaughter of two veterans—two veterans—of World War II, the daughter of parents who value public service regardless of party.

Ms. Allen understands the importance of making institutional changes to better educate our diplomats and integrate public diplomacy tools into policymaking.

I urge this body to support cloture on Ms. Allen's nomination so we can get her confirmed without delay and

spread the good word of American foreign policy throughout the world.

I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 157, Elizabeth Allen, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy.

Charles E. Schumer, Robert Menendez, Benjamin L. Cardin, Mazie Hirono, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Margaret Wood Hassan, Thomas R. Carper, Tammy Baldwin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Peter Welch, Richard J. Durbin, Tina Smith, Alex Padilla, Debbie Stabenow, Tammy Duckworth, Chris Van Hollen, Ben Ray Lujan.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Elizabeth Allen, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted "no."

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 66, nays 29, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 153 Ex.]

YEAS—66

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Risch
Bennet	Hirono	Romney
Blumenthal	Kaine	Rosen
Brown	Kelly	Rounds
Cantwell	Kennedy	Sanders
Capito	King	Schatz
Cardin	Klobuchar	Schumer
Carper	Lujan	Shaheen
Casey	Manchin	Sinema
Collins	Markey	Smith
Cooms	McConnell	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Sullivan
Crapo	Merkley	Tester
Duckworth	Moran	Tillis
Durbin	Murkowski	Van Hollen
Feinstein	Murphy	Warner
Fetterman	Murray	Warnock
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Warren
Graham	Padilla	Welch
Grassley	Peters	Whitehouse
Hassan	Reed	Wyden
Heinrich	Ricketts	Young

NAYS—29

Blackburn	Britt	Cassidy
Boozman	Budd	Cornyn

Cotton	Hoeven	Rubio
Cramer	Johnson	Schmitt
Cruz	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Daines	Lee	Thune
Ernst	Lummis	Tuberville
Fischer	Marshall	Vance
Hagerty	Mullin	Wicker
Hawley	Paul	

NOT VOTING—5

Barrasso	Braun	Scott (FL)
Booker	Hyde-Smith	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). On this vote, the yeas are 66, the nays are 29.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Minnesota.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNIZING MUJERES LATINAS EN ACCION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, I would like to honor an organization that generations of Illinois families have relied on: Mujeres Latinas en Accion—or Latina Women in Action.

Mujeres is the longest standing Latina-led organization in the entire country. And this year, they are celebrating 50 years of empowering and emboldening Latinas across our State—as well as their families.

Founded in 1973 by the late Maria Mangual, Mujeres was first established as a shelter for young women escaping violence in the Pilsen neighborhood of Chicago, IL. Back then, some wrote off Mujeres' work as radical and unnecessary, but these critics didn't deter Maria or the dedicated women who supported her cause from building an enduring and indispensable organization. In the five decades since, Mujeres' mission, services, and footprint have only expanded to help uplift women from all walks of life.

And today, Mujeres does it all. They host support groups to help young families with parenting skills. They operate a 24-hour crisis line—and referral service—to assist survivors of domestic and sexual violence, both of which, tragically, increased during the COVID-19 pandemic. They have developed an education training program for women hoping to launch or expand their small businesses, as well as a community engagement and mobilization program, to amplify the voices of Latina immigrants and survivors of trauma. And, importantly, Mujeres is now a leading advocate in the effort to ensure pay equity for Latinas in the workplace. What is more, as Mujeres' mission has evolved over the years, so, too, has size of their operation. They

have opened new sites beyond Pilsen, in Brighton Park and North Riverside—so they can reach even more women and families.

The Brighton Park facility, which opened in 2019, was the product of a partnership between Mujeres and Esperanza Health Centers. This facility offers everything from adult medicine and women's health services, to pediatrics and psychiatry, and even behavioral health care services to residents, regardless of their economic or immigration status. Over the years, Mujeres has established itself as a vital resource for thousands of Illinois families. Every year, they provide critical care and services to more than 8,000 clients, in both English and Spanish.

I am forever grateful to Mujeres for their commitment to improving, and even saving, the lives of women in Illinois. I would like to thank Amalia Rioja, who introduced me to Mujeres 25 years ago, as well as all of the trailblazers who have carried Maria Mangual's legacy forward, including Liz Prieto, Linda Coronado, Virginia Martinez, Norma Seledon, Maria Pesqueira, and Linda Xochtil Tortolero.

I cannot wait to see what Mujeres accomplishes over the next 50 years.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 23-27, concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the Netherlands for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$110 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MIKE MILLER
(For James A. Hursch, Director).

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 23-27

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of the Netherlands.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment * \$75 million.

Other \$35 million

Total \$110 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Up to eight (8) eight-cell MK 41 Vertical Launching Systems (VLS) Baseline (B/L) VII Strike Length Launcher Modules (either system or standalone)

Non-MDE: Also included are spare parts; handling equipment; transportation test and support equipment; software; engineering/technical assistance; personnel training and training equipment; documentation, publications, and technical data; U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (NE-P-LIG).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: NE-P-LFN, NE-P-LAB.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: June 2, 2023.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Netherlands—MK 41 Vertical Launching System (VLS)

The Government of the Netherlands has requested to buy up to eight (8) eight-cell MK 41 Vertical Launching Systems (VLS) Baseline (B/L) VII Strike Length Launcher Modules (either system or standalone). Also included are spare parts; handling equipment; transportation test and support equipment; software; engineering/technical assistance; personnel training and training equipment; documentation, publications, and technical data; U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The total estimated program cost is \$110 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a NATO ally that is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe. It is vital to the U.S. national interest to assist the Netherlands in developing and maintaining a strong and ready self-defense capability.

The proposed sale will provide a defensive capability for the Netherlands while enhancing interoperability with U.S. and other allied forces. The Royal Netherlands Navy intends to use the MK 41 VLS BIL VII strike length launcher modules for their new ship class. These modules are intended for ESSM BLK1 and SM-2 capabilities in support of ongoing and emergent operational needs. The Netherlands, has previously purchased MK 41 VLS capability and actively uses it on their current ship classes. The Netherlands will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment and support into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor will be Lockheed Martin Corporation, Bethesda, MD. There

are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of the proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the Netherlands. However, U.S. Government or contractor personnel in-country visits will be required on a temporary basis in conjunction with program technical oversight and support requirements.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 23-27

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The MK 41 Vertical Launch System (VLS) is a fixed, vertical, multi-missile launching system with the capability to store and launch multiple missile variants depending on the warfighting mission, including the Evolved Sea Sparrow Missile (ESSM), Standard Missile (SM), and Tomahawk Cruise Missiles. This proposed sale would provide tactical VLS capability for the ESSM and SM. The MK 41 VLS is a modular below-deck configuration with each module consisting of 8 missile cells with an associated gas management and deluge system.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale, is CONFIDENTIAL.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that the Netherlands can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of the Netherlands.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 23-0G. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 20-74 dated December 11, 2020.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosure.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 23-0G

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO).

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 20-74; Date: December 11, 2020; Military Department: Air Force.

(iii) Description: On December 11, 2020, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 20-74 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of four (4) Weapons-Ready MQ-9B Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS); two (2) Fixed Ground Control Stations; two (2) Mobile Ground Control Stations; and fourteen (14) Embedded Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigations Systems (EGI) with Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) (12 installed, 2 spares). Also included were MX-20 Multi-Spectral Targeting Systems and spares; SeaVue Maritime Multi-Role Patrol Radars; SAGE 750 Electronic Surveillance Measures (ESM) Systems; C-Band Line-of-Sight (LOS) Ground Data Terminals; Ku-Band SATCOM GA-ASI Transportable Earth Stations (GATES); AN/DPX-7 Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) Transponders; Honeywell TPE-331-100D Turboprop Engines; M6000 UHF/VHF Radios; KIV-77 Mode 5 IFF cryptographic appliques; AN/PYQ-10C Simple Key Loaders; secure communications, cryptographic, and IFF equipment; initial spare and repair parts; hard points, power, and data connections for weapons integration; support and test equipment; publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The total estimated program cost was \$600 million. Major Defense Equipment (MOE) constituted \$153 million of this total.

This transmittal notifies the inclusion of the following MDE items: an additional two (2) Embedded Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigation System (GPS/INS) (EGI) with SAASM or M-code capability; and six (6) AN/APY-8 Lynx Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) and Ground Moving Target Indicator (GMTI) systems. Also included are Sierra Nevada Corporation (SNC) 4500 Electronic Intelligence (ELINT) Systems; Remotely Operated Video Enhanced Receiver (ROVER) 6Sx systems and Video Dissemination Links (VDL); Digital Datalink Encryptors; Automatic Information System Transponders; KOR-24A tactical airborne radios; and portable pre/post-flight equipment; as well as additional units of the following: MX-20 Multi-Spectral Targeting Systems; Sea Vue Maritime Multi-Role patrol radars; SAGE 750 Electronic Surveillance Measures (ESM) systems; C-Band Line-of-Sight (LOS)

ground data terminals; Honeywell TPE-331-10GD turboprop engines; M6000 UHF/NHF radios; cryptographic and IFF equipment; and Simple Key Loaders. This transmittal further notifies the following non-MDE items that were inadvertently omitted from the original notification: Due Regard Radars (ORR); and KY-100M narrowband/wideband cryptographic devices. The estimated total value of the additional items is \$152 million. The total estimated MDE value will increase by \$14 million to \$167 million. The estimated total case value, will increase to \$752 million.

(iv) Significance: The proposed sale will improve the recipient's capability to meet current and future threats by providing timely Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR), target acquisition, and counter-land, counter-sea, and anti-submarine strike capabilities for its security and defense.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale serves U.S. national economic, and security interests by supporting the recipient's continuing efforts to modernize its armed forces and to maintain a credible defensive capability. The proposed sale will help improve the security of the recipient and assist in maintaining political stability, military balance, and economic progress in the region.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology:

The Embedded Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigation System (OPS/INS) (EGI) with Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM)—or M-Code receiver when available—and Precise Positioning Service (PPS) is a self-contained navigation system that provides information on the following: acceleration, velocity, position, attitude, platform azimuth, magnetic and true heading, altitude, body angular rates, time tags, and coordinated universal time (UTC) synchronized time. SAASM or M-Code enables the OPS receiver access to the encrypted P(Y) code or M code signal, providing protection against active spoofing attacks.

The AN/APY-8 Lynx Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) and Ground Moving Target Indicator (GMTI) system provides all-weather surveillance, tracking and targeting for military and commercial customers from manned and unmanned vehicles.

The Due Regard Radar (DRR) is a collision avoidance air-to-air radar comprised of a two-panel Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) antenna and a Radar Electronics Assembly (REA) that give the UAS pilot the ability to detect and track aircraft across the same Field-of-View (FOV) as a manned aircraft. AESA technology allows the DRR to track multiple targets while simultaneously continuing to scan for new aircraft.

The KY-100Ms provide encryption to enable secure voice communications over the MQ-9B's radios.

The SNC 4500E ELINT system is used to detect, identify, and locate various radar emitters and provide the collected data to operational users for further analysis and exploitation.

The L3 Harris ROVER 6Sx/6Si transceiver provides real-time, full-motion video (FMV) and other network data for situational awareness, targeting, battle damage assessment, surveillance, relay, convoy over-watch operations and other situations where eyes-on-target are required. It provides expanded frequencies and additional processing resources from previous ROVER versions, allowing increased levels of collaboration and interoperability with numerous manned and unmanned airborne platforms.

The Automatic Identification System (AIS) Transponder provides the ability to track & identify AIS-equipped maritime vessels over VHF.

The Digital Datalink Encryptors provide NSA Type-1 encryption for each High Data Rate (HDR) datalink. The MQ-9B system utilizes multiple independent datalinks to provide communications between the Ground Control Station and the aircraft.

The KOR-24A Small Tactical Terminal (STT) is a two channel, software defined, small form factor Link 16 radio. The SIT provides high assurance secure communications.

The Portable Pre-flight/Post-flight Equipment (P3E) is used by the ground crew at the MQ-9B operating sites to interface with the aircraft for performing maintenance functions. The P3E is a ruggedized computer assembly that interfaces directly with the aircraft via a cable and provides functionality for conducting pre and post-flight checks and to establish the aircraft on the SATCOM datalink for handover to the flight crew in the Ground Control Station.

The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the original notification applies to additional items reported here.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: June 8, 2023.

ALZHEIMER'S AND BRAIN AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, with my fellow Members of Idaho's congressional delegation Senator JIM RISCH and Representatives MIKE SIMPSON and RUSS FULCHER, we recognize June as Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month. According to the Alzheimer's Association, 27,000 people aged 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's in Idaho, while 65,000 family caregivers bear the burden of the disease. In honor of these Idaho families and the millions of other Americans and their loved ones impacted by Alzheimer's, we continue the fight to stop harmful policies delaying access to treatment for Alzheimer's patients.

The Food and Drug Administration's, FDA, accelerated approval pathway has provided a lifeline for countless Americans suffering from Alzheimer's disease by advancing access to safe and effective medicines years before these treatments could otherwise come to market. Numerous studies show that drugs that have gone through the accelerated approval pathway reach patients an average of more than 3 years before they would otherwise.

Unfortunately, the current administration has taken unprecedented steps to erode this pathway, deterring lifesaving innovation and delaying access to care by restricting Medicare coverage for an entire class of potential Alzheimer's therapies. This harmful coverage decision carries grave implications for Alzheimer's patients. Every day without access to FDA-approved drugs, more than 2,000 people transition to a more advanced stage of Alzheimer's where they are no longer eligible for treatment, reports the Alzheimer's Association. The administration must reverse course and provide access to these lifesaving pathways as quickly as possible.

We are grateful to leaders from communities across Idaho and our country who are pivotal in advancing Alzheimer's and dementia research and other important efforts that are making progress in fighting this disease and supporting families dealing with this dreaded disease. The advocates' personal experiences with the disease's effects in their own families often fuel and inform their engagement. Their perspectives are deeply valuable as we continue to work to improve drug access and affordability. This includes working to ensure Federal policies enable, not discourage, innovators to quickly bring their life-saving discoveries to market.

Time and again, American ingenuity has proven it can meet the challenges we face, if the Federal Government gets out of the way. This Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month is a reminder of the pressing need to better empower patients and doctors to decide the treatments right for them. Throughout this month, as Americans wear purple and participate in other awareness and educational activities and in the years ahead, let's do all we can to alleviate the burden on families across our country by easing access to innovative treatment for Alzheimer's.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING PRECISION OPTICAL GROUP

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Precision Optical Group of Creston, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Following a fishing trip, friends Mike Tamerius and Matt Somers started Precision Optical Group in 1992. Mike had his start in the optical industry working as an optician during his time at Grinnell College in Grinnell, IA, and is a member of the Opticians Association of Iowa and is a certified optician from Metro Tech Community College. Initially starting as a two-person shop, with 100 square feet, the shop expanded operations after only 1 year to a larger building. Over the years, Precision Optical Group has expanded to three locations while maintaining their Creston headquarters. The company acquired the Chicago lab location in 2014. Seeing a need for additional expansion, they acquired the Precise Optical lab in San Angelo, TX, in 2018.

Precision Optical Group is a family enterprise; Mike's son Alex is a sales and marketing specialist with the team. He has a degree in business management from Central College in Pella, IA, in 2018 and has been working there since high school where he started helping in the lab. He also spent time

early in his career helping his aunt Deb, who serves as the purchasing manager.

Between the three labs, they have a team of 140 employees and make 1,700 lenses per day. As the country's largest independently owned wholesale optical lab, they have customers across 48 States and export globally. Additionally, Precision Optical Group is a member of the Creston Chamber of Commerce.

In 2022, Precision Optical Group celebrated their 30th anniversary. Precision Optical Group's commitment to providing quality lenses throughout the globe while maintaining their Iowa roots is clear. I want to congratulate Mike Tamerius and the entire team at Precision Optical Group for their continued dedication to the optical industry. I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success in Iowa.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13405 OF JUNE 16, 2006, WITH RESPECT TO BELARUS—PM 14

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Belarus that was declared in Executive Order 13405 of June 16, 2006, which was

expanded in scope in Executive Order 14038 of August 9, 2021, is to continue in effect beyond June 16, 2023.

The actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Belarus and other persons, and the Belarusian regime's harmful activities and long-standing abuses, continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13405 with respect to Belarus.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 12, 2023.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to section 1092(b)(1)(A) of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2023 (Public Law 117-263), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the National Commission on the Future of the Navy: Mr. Scott O'Neill of Ridgecrest, California.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1476. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Small Business Lending Under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (Regulation B)" (RIN3170-AA09) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1477. A communication from the Senior Program Manager, Bureau Veritas Technical Assessment, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Independent Assessment of Child Safety in Military Family Housing"; to the Committees on Armed Services; and Appropriations.

EC-1478. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Annual National Defense Stockpile Operations and Planning Report"; to the Committees on Armed Services; and Appropriations.

EC-1479. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), transmitting, pursuant to law, the biennial report to Congress on strategic and critical materials requirements for the National Defense Stockpile; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1480. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), transmitting, pursuant to law, the MQ-4C Triton Unmanned Aircraft System President's Budget 2024 annual Selected Acquisition Report (SAR); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1481. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office

of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Operational Contract Support (OCS) Outside the United States” (RIN0790-AK81) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1482. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a certification that the export of the listed items to the People's Republic of China is not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1483. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Policy Statement on Section 9(13) of the Federal Reserve Act” (RIN7100-AG53) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1484. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Oil Spill Responsibility Adjustment of the Limit of Liability for Offshore Facilities” (RIN1010-AE18) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1485. A communication from the Biologist of the Branch of Domestic Listing, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for Slickspot Peppergrass (*Lipidium papilliferum*)” (RIN1018-BE61) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1486. A communication from the Biologist of the Branch of Domestic Listing, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Species Status With Section 4(d) Rule for Egyptian Tortoise” (RIN1018-BD04) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1487. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan; Subpart J Product Schedule Listing and Authorization of Use Requirements” (RIN2050-AE87) (FRL No. 4526-01-OLEM) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1488. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Confidential Business Information Claims under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)” (FRL No. 8223-02-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1489. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; West Virginia; Control of Emissions from Existing Municipal Solid Waste Landfills” (FRL No. 9329-02-R3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1490. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; California; Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District” (FRL No. 9882-02-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1491. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; New York; Particulate Matter Control Strategy” (FRL No. 10144-02-R2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1492. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Wisconsin; VOC RACT for Miscellaneous Industrial Adhesives and Miscellaneous Metal and Plastic Parts Coatings” (FRL No. 10168-02-R5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1493. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Limited Approval and Limited Disapproval; California; Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District” (FRL No. 10645-02-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1494. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Pennsylvania; Infrastructure State Implementation Plan Revision Clean Air Act Section 110 Applicable Requirements for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS)” (FRL No. 10665-02-R3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1495. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; State of Missouri; Restriction of Particulate Matter to the Ambient Air Beyond the Premises of Origin” (FRL No. 10815-02-R7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1496. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Domestic Content Bonus Credit Guidance under Sections 45, 45Y, 48, and 48E” (Notice 2023-38) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 22, 2023; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1497. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Notice: Perpetual Trust Funds” (Notice 2023-39) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1498. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of

Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Annual Report to Congress on the Medicare and Medicaid Integrity Programs for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021”; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1499. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Additional Guidance for the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project Credit Allocation Program under Section 4” (Notice 2023-44) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1500. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting additional legislative proposals that the Department of Defense requests be enacted during the first session of the 118th Congress; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1501. A communication from the Chair and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to various countries; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1502. A communication from the Chair and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Türkiye; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1503. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fair Housing Rule, Consumer Protection in Sales of Insurance Rule; Technical Correction” (RIN3064-AF89) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1504. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting seventeen (17) legislative proposals relative to the President of the United States' Fiscal Year 2024 budget request for the Department of Homeland Security; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1505. A communication from the Biologist of the Branch of Domestic Listing, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the Miami Tiger Beetle” (RIN1018-BF38) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble:

S. Res. 174. A resolution condemning the human rights record of the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini and the brutal killing of Eswatini activist Thulani Maseko on January 21, 2023.

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. 920. A bill to reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 1921. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit employment of children in tobacco-related agriculture by deeming such employment as oppressive child labor; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BOOKER, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 1922. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage for wigs as durable medical equipment under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Mr. DAINES):

S. 1923. A bill to prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing a proposed rule with respect to new source performance standards from certain stationary sources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 1924. A bill to protect human rights and enhance opportunities for LGBTQI people around the world, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 1925. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to improve the detection, prevention, and treatment of mental health issues among public safety officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 1926. A bill to amend the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act to make Uruguay eligible for designation as a beneficiary country under that Act, to include Uruguay in the list of foreign states whose nationals are eligible for admission into the United States as E1 and E2 nonimmigrants if nationals of the United States are treated similarly by the Government of Uruguay, and to require a report on the eligibility of Uruguay for the visa waiver program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. WICKER):

S. 1927. A bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to develop a comprehensive unmanned aircraft system integration strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mr. RISCH):

S. 1928. A bill to modify the prohibition on financing in the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. WARNOCK, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 1929. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to provide progress reports on the development and implementation of the national transi-

tion plan related to a fluorine-free fire-fighting foam, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LUJÁN:

S. 1930. A bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to support the buildout of clean school bus charging infrastructure through community facilities direct loans and grants; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 110

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 110, a bill to allow a State to submit a declaration of intent to the Secretary of Education to combine certain funds to improve the academic achievement of students.

S. 133

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 133, a bill to extend the National Alzheimer's Project.

S. 134

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 134, a bill to require an annual budget estimate for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to reports and recommendations made under the National Alzheimer's Project Act.

S. 305

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 305, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps, and to support programs at the Marine Corps Heritage Center.

S. 549

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 549, a bill to require enforcement against misbranded milk alternatives.

S. 626

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 626, a bill to recommend that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation test the effect of a dementia care management model, and for other purposes.

S. 867

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 867, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide for grants for State firearms dealer licensing programs, and for other purposes.

S. 980

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Pennsyl-

vania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. 980, a bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to exempt industrial hemp from certain requirements under the hemp production program, and for other purposes.

S. 985

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 985, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to ensure campus access at public institutions of higher education for religious groups.

S. 1034

At the request of Ms. LUMMIS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1034, a bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to establish a competitive grant program for projects for commercial motor vehicle parking, and for other purposes.

S. 1141

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1141, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes.

S. 1159

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1159, a bill to amend the Equal Credit Opportunity Act to modify the requirements associated with small business loan data collection, and for other purposes.

S. 1193

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1193, a bill to prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities who need long-term services and supports, and for other purposes.

S. 1231

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1231, a bill to prohibit disinformation in the advertising of abortion services, and for other purposes.

S. 1266

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1266, a bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to improve benefits and services for surviving spouses, and for other purposes.

S. 1271

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1271, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to trafficking of illicit fentanyl

and its precursors by transnational criminal organizations, including cartels, and for other purposes.

S. 1329

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1329, a bill to direct the Librarian of Congress to carry out activities to support Armenian Genocide education programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1384

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1384, a bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors.

S. 1438

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1438, a bill to make improvements to the small community air service development program.

S. 1453

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1453, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate advance refunding bonds.

S. 1542

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1542, a bill to improve services provided by pharmacy benefit managers.

S. 1573

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1573, a bill to reauthorize the Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who deliver Infants Early Act.

S. 1669

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. 1669, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to issue a rule requiring access to AM broadcast stations in motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

S. 1732

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1732, a bill to require application stores to publicly list the country of origin of the applications that they distribute, and to provide consumers the ability to protect themselves.

S. 1741

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1741, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to prohibit electric

vehicle original equipment manufacturers from participating in the renewable fuel program, and for other purposes.

S. 1802

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1802, a bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a fund for the conduct of collaborative defense projects between the United States and Israel in emerging technologies, and for other purposes.

S. 1811

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1811, a bill to ensure treatment in the military based on merit and performance, and for other purposes.

S. 1828

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1828, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recognize nurse registries for purposes of the Veterans Community Care Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1829

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1829, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to persons engaged in the import of petroleum from the Islamic Republic of Iran, and for other purposes.

S. 1839

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1839, a bill to improve Federal population surveys by requiring the collection of voluntary, self-disclosed information on sexual orientation, gender identity, and variations in sex characteristics in certain surveys, and for other purposes.

S. 1859

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1859, a bill to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing the proposed rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Consumer Conventional Cooking Products", and for other purposes.

S. 1896

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1896, a bill to reauthorize the SCORE program, and for other purposes.

S. 1910

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr.

BRAUN) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 1910, a bill to expand the VetSuccess on Campus program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1910, supra.

S.J. RES. 25

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 25, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to "Adverse Effect Wage Rate Methodology for the Temporary Employment of H-2A Nonimmigrants in Non-Range Occupations in the United States".

S. RES. 106

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 106, a resolution condemning Beijing's destruction of Hong Kong's democracy and rule of law.

STATEMENT ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 1921. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit employment of children in tobacco-related agriculture by deeming such employment as oppressive child labor; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1921

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as "Children Don't Belong on Tobacco Farms Act".

SEC. 2. TOBACCO-RELATED AGRICULTURE EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN.

Section 3(l) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 203(l)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence—

(A) by striking "in any occupation, or (2)" and inserting "in any occupation, (2)"; and

(B) by inserting before the semicolon the following: ", or (3) any employee under the age of eighteen years has direct contact with tobacco plants or dried tobacco leaves"; and

(2) in the second sentence, by striking "other than manufacturing and mining" and inserting ", other than manufacturing, mining, and tobacco-related agriculture as described in paragraph (3) of the first sentence of this subsection,".

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the

following member of my staff be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the Congress: Steven Szucs.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CASSIDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Gwyn Shelley, an intern in my office, be granted floor privileges until June 13, 2023.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2023

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 13; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that following the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Allen nomination postcloture; further, that all time be considered expired at 11:30 a.m. and, following the cloture vote on the Vera nomination, the Senate recess until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; that at 2:15 p.m., notwithstanding rule XXII, the Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the Bernstein nomination; that the Senate recess from 3:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. for the all-Senators briefing; further, that if cloture has been invoked, at 5 p.m., the Senate vote on confirmation of the Vera and Bernstein nominations in the order listed; finally, that the cloture vote on the Pitts nomination occur at a time to be determined by the majority leader, following consultation with the Republican leader, during Wednesday's session; and that if any nominations are confirmed during Tuesday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:32 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY

NANCY ANDERSON SPEIGHT, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS EXPIRING JULY 1, 2024, VICE ERNEST W. DUBESTER, TERM EXPIRED.

NANCY ANDERSON SPEIGHT, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS EXPIRING JULY 1, 2023. (REAPPOINTMENT)

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED, UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. MARY V. KRUEGER
BRIG. GEN. ANTHONY L. MCQUEEN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AS A CHAPLAIN UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be brigadier general

COL. JACK J. STUMME

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

OLIVER E. BARFIELD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

ASHLEY L. SHULL
SEAN M. WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be colonel

RONALD MARK ALLIGOOD
KURT RYAN ANDERSON
KEVIN LEE ARCHER
CHAD ALAN ASPLUND
CHRISTINE LITVINCHYK BANKS
CHRISTOPHER DARNELL BANKS
KELLY LYNN BEAN
PATRICK BRIAN BECK
NICK WILLIAM BIGGS
REBECCA LYNN BISSETTE
DAVID CHARLES BLOMGREN
CHAD JAMES BRIGGS
JOHN DAVID BUSKE
NATHANIEL BOONE CALDON
JOHN PAUL CARLSON
GERALD RALPH CLARK
BRIAN THOMAS COOPER
JACOB LANIER CORBETT
KEVIN PATRICK DACY
DONALD WESLEY DAVENPORT
MICHAEL JOHN DUNLAP
BRIAN MEARN'S FAIR
PAUL JOSEPH FIASCONARO
JOSHUA AARON FOGLE
NATHAN ANDREW FOSB
CHRISTOPHER JOHN FRANCIS
TERESA RENEE FRANK
DALE ANDREW GADBOIS
SEAN BENJAMIN GARELL
KENDA MARIE GARRETT
STEVEN DAVID GUYTON
STEVEN PATRICK HARRIGAN
STEVEN KEITH HAY
TIMOTHY JAY HOYLE
DIECE ANN HRITZ
TIMOTHY CHARLES HUCHEL
RYAN RONALD JONES
CHRISTOPHER LYNN KANNADY
ANTHONY KENT KRUEGER, JR.
DEREK JAMES LEARY
DONALD GERALD LEBLANC
JONATHAN SIU YUN MA
KATHLEEN MAHONEY
JUAN GUILLELMO MARULANDA
MICHAEL J. MCDERMOTT
BRIAN WILLIAM MILLER
JAMES MICHAEL MURPHY
MICHELLE LYNN NEUGENT
CAMERON P. NORDIN
MARY PETERSEN ORTIZ
KIPP TYSON PARKER
RICHARD DAVID PULICE
RONALD JOSEPH QUAM
WADE MAXWELL RHYNE
BENJAMIN WILLIAM ROBBINS
LAURIE EILEEN RODRIGUEZ
CHRISTINE ROMASCAN
RAYMOND ANTHONY SACKMANN
NICHOLAS FRANCIS SAMMONS
DANIEL MCBRIDE SCHEPERS
MICHAEL ANTHONY SCORSONE
CURTIS J. SHAFFER
FRANK JOSEPH SHOAF
ANDREW DONALD STJEAN
SETH DAVID STORMS
GLEN WAYNE SUTTON
STEPHEN LALTRA THOMAS
ROBERT ABAR TIMMONS
WESLEY HOWARD WATSON
JOE FORREST WILDMAN
JAMES HENRY WILLIAMS II
KRISTOPHER SCOTT WOLFRAM

MATTHEW DAVID WOOLUMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be colonel

BRIAN CHARLES ANDERSON
SETH CRAIG ANDERSON
JASON ALBERT ARNDT
LAWRENCE MERRICK ARNOLD II
RYAN LEE AVERY
JEFFREY KENNETH BAILEY
ERIC ANDREW BALINT
MICHAEL ANTHONY BARAKAT
GREGORY JOSEPH BARTELMA
LLOYD ROBERT J. BLESSINGTON
RONNIE KEITH BLOUNT
MATTHEW CRAIG BRENNER
BRENDA FAYE BRINKLEY
MATTHEW STEVEN BRITO
WILLIAM ROBERT BROMAN III
ERIK KEITH BROWN
WILLIAM PENN BROWN
CHRISTOPHER NEIL BROWNELL
JOHN EDWARD BROWNELL
ROBERT HALL CAMPBELL
SETH THOMAS CARMODY
PAMELA SHARLENE CARROLL
JAMES DAREN CHATHAM
ANDREW ROBERT CHILCOAT
KELLY PATRICK CHURCH
BROCK CHRISTIAN CIMA
BRADLEY DAVID CLAXTON
DOYLE SCOTT COLEMAN
JESSE P. COLWELL
WILLIAM J. COX, JR.
CHRISTIAN M. C. CRUZ
SHAUN GARRETT CRUZE
ALISA DAVIS
JOSEPH JOHN DEEDS
SAMUEL LOUIS HOB DEGENERES
THOMAS RICHARD DEGRAFF III
MICHAEL CLARK DOAN
BRIAN PAUL DOYLE
WALTER FRANCIS DRAGON, JR.
ROBERT ALLEN ENGER
WALTER RYAN EHMAY
MATTHEW DAVID EMERSON
KHANH MINH ENSIGN
ROSS ELIOT EVENHOUSE
DAVID LOUIS FECSO
JOSEPH ANDREW FERDA
MELANIE ANN FERGUSON
MATTHEW PHILLIP FERRINGER
KEVIN FITZGERALD
DOUGLAS FRASER FRANKLIN
ROBERT ARTHUR FRENCH
STEVEN WAYNE FULFER
KRISTINA LEE GARUTI
ROBERT LEE GEARY, JR.
ALBERT THOMPSON GERMANY
ANTHONY GIAMELLO
CESAR GONZALEZ
ANDREW JAMES GRAY
DIANA KIMIE GREGORY
ROBERT CARL GRIFFIN
JEREMY DAVID GROAT
BRIAN RICHARD GROSSWEILER
ROBIN ELIZABETH GRUBB
CRAIG KEITH GURAL
RYAN KEITH HARVEY
JESSE LEBLANC HASENKAMPF
JAMES WIDTFELDT HAWKES
AMANDA KELLY HILL
JONATHAN FREDERICK HOUGH
JERRI LYNN HOWERTON
KATHERINE ELAINE IRISH
ELIZABETH SUE JOHNSON
JACOB CHANDLER JOHNSON
JASON MICHAEL JOHNSON
STEPHANIE LOMAX JOHNSON
EDWARD LOWRY JONES
JOHN KEITH KELCH
PAUL MICHAEL KELL
MICHAEL CHRISTOPHE KELLEY
LINDA WILLIAMS KIESER
JENNIFER LYNN KING
AARON JAY KLIMAN
VICTOR ERIC KNILL
JANAY ALEXANDRA LAKE
MARCUS KELLY LANDRUM
ALEXYS XAVIER LANG
CHAD EDWARD LARSON
ERIC MICHAEL LEE
HEATHER MICHELLE C. LEITE
CHRISTOPHER JAM LINDSHIELD
MARK D. LONGNECKER
MISTY J. LOONEY
RICHARD SCOTT LORRAINE
JONATHAN PAUL MAAS
MAUREEN KAY MAPHIES
RANDALL EDWIN MCLELLAND
ELMER FRED MCDANIEL, JR.
KENNETH EDWARD MCENTYRE, JR.
SCOTT THOMAS MCGUIRE
BRYAN SCOTT MCNAUGHTON
CHRISTOPHER WILLIAM MELKA
NICHOLAS STAYTON MILES
STEPHANIE DARLENE MYERS
ANDREW JAMES NASH
ADAM JAMES NICHOLS
ROY THOMAS NIEUKIRK, JR.
LANCE ERIC NIEWENHUIS
MARJORIE LEA NORTON
ASHLEY EVE NOWAK

CHRISTOPHER ANDREW PALMER
DANA MICHAEL PARMENTER
SHAHIN DANIEL PENA SERRANO
HEATHER LYNN VIRGIL PERANDO
SASHA MARIE PERRONNE
STEPHEN RAY PETERS
JOSEPH JAMES POTESTIVO
JENNIFER ELIZABETH POULTER
SANDIE MARIE PYNES
JAMES ANTHONY REED
LONNY LEE REESE
SEAN MICHAEL RENBARGER
VERONICA MARIE REYES
LIONEL DEWAYNE RILEY
JOSE DANIEL RIVERA
WYATT KNIGHT RIVES
HECTOR LUIS ROMAN
JOHN MICHAEL ROMSPERT
EDWIN RUSSELL ROTAN II
MATTHEW PARRISH SANDS
DOUGLAS DALE SCHAFER
JOSEPH FELIX SIMONETTE
STEVEN DANIEL SLOSEK
NATHANIEL KENT SMITH
CAMERON MICHAEL SPRAGUE
DORRIE ELIZABETH STAAL
JAMES BLAIN STEWART IV

GREGORY HUGH STILLER
JEREMY HOWARD STONER
TIMOTHY MICHAEL STROUSE
MATTHEW DANA STURTEVANT
BETHANY ANNE TORMA
SCOTT MATTHEW TREADWELL
NICHOLAS PAUL TRUDELL
EDUARDO RENE VALLE
JASON ANTHONY VAN WAGNER
AUTUMN MARIE VERNON
TODD LAWRENCE WALTON
CHRISTOPHER HEIN WEISSHAAR
MICHAEL ELTON WEITZEL
NICHOLAS DAVID WELLY
JAMES MORRIS WHITELEY
CEDRIC LOH SHIN WONG
RANDALL WAYNE WRIGHT
GEORGE ROBERT WYSE
HEATHER LYNN YAMAMOTO
MICHAEL SEICHI YAMAMOTO
YVETTE TRAHAN YARBROUGH
JERRY WAYNE ZOLLMAN, JR.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

PAUL A. STELZER

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MA-
RINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

BRADLEY C. FROMM

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MA-
RINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

LERON E. LANE

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

ANDRES S. PISCOYA